ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

A stratospheric flying object which is placed in the stratosphere of the earth has an airship-shaped flying object body, a despun platform unit mounted on the flying object body by a mount, and a controller for detecting an azimuthal angle of the despun platform unit in a horizontal plane and controlling the platform unit to face in a constant direction at all times within the horizontal plane. Preferably, directional antennas and telescopes for optical communications are mounted on the despun platform unit.

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